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PRESS RELEASE

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The Concordia University varsity hockey team end an eleven day lay-off this Thursday, when they meet Clarkson College in the opening round of the North County Thanksgiving Hockey Tournament in Potsdam, New York. The Stingers will play the Clarkson Golden Knights, presently ranked fifth in the United States, the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Engineers and the St. Lawrence Saints in their second appearance in the Holiday Tourney. Concordia caputred the 1975 tournament by defeating Clarkson 5-1, St. Lawrence 6-2, and the University of Vermont 5-2. Goaltender, Jim Corsi was selected the tournament's Most Valuable Player and head coach, Paul Arsenault is counting on another goaltender to spark the Stingers to victory.

Nick Sanza, in his first year at Concordia, has a sparkling 1.97 goals per game average and one shutout in the four-plus games he has played in this season. Nick's heroics has reminded many Concordia fans of Corsi, who now toils for the Quebec Nordiques of the World Hockey Association.

Concordia is 4-5-1 overall and find themselves in an unusual position in the Quebec University Athletic Association - in last place with an 0-2 record. However, Arsenault is still confident that his skaters can successfully defend their Q.U.A.A. title.

"We opened our league with two games against a very strong team, (Université du Québec à Trois-Rivieres) that was better prepared than us." Arsenault commented. "We are still trying to get everybody playing the same system, and with so many new players, it takes time. The big thing is that we did not give up in the second game against Three Rivers, but came back in the final period."

U.Q.T.R. led the Stingers 6-1 last Sunday going into the third period but the Stingers rallied to cut the lead to 6-5 before finally succumbing 7-5.

Concordia returns to league action Tuesday, November 29th, when they host the improved McGill Redmen. The Stingers wrap up the first semester home schedule when they host the defending Canadian collegiate champion, Toronto Blues, Friday and Saturday nights, December 9th and 10th.

Kim Elliott is the Stingers leading scorer to date with 13 points on 5 goals and 8 assists, while Bill Doherty has 7 goals and 5 assists for 12 points, and Dwayne Byers has recorded 7 goals and 3 assists for 10 points.

Concordia has played six non-conference games to date, winning three, losing two and tying one. The Stingers have defeated the highly-rated St. Francis Xavier X-Men, University of New Brunswick and the 8th ranked St. Louis Billikens. Against N.C.A.A. teams, Concordia's overall record in three years is 8 wins and 3 losses.